

# Coyotes



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The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) provides advice on urban wildlife issues, but does not provide nuisance coyote control.

- **DO NOT FEED COYOTES!** Keep all pet food and water inside!
- Keep garbage secured.
- Keep compost piles covered (never include bones or animal fat).
- Do not feed feral cats.
- Smaller dogs should be accompanied while outside.
- Use noise making devices and scare tactics (motor vehicle horns, air horns, throwing rocks etc.)
- Install floodlights near livestock pens.
- For more information on hunting and trapping coyotes: [Hunting and Trapping Regulations](#)

## Biological Information

**Distribution:** common throughout Louisiana, ranges from Alaska southward through western and southern Canada, through the western 2/3 of the U.S., and southward through southern Mexico

**Habitat:** prefers open country and idle farmlands adjacent to wooded areas; dens in gulleys under roots, thickets, and dense cover.

**Appearance:** looks like a small German Shepherd, coat color varies, adults weigh 18-30 pounds; 43 teeth

**Reproduction:** breed in February; male attends the female and litter; 5-7 pups

**Food habits:** opportunistic with food; rabbits, birds, plants, insects, carrion, livestock, and poultry

**Habits:** males roam 30-40 miles; females 5-8 miles; may hunt alone or in groups

**Controls:** adults rarely preyed upon; juveniles preyed upon by eagles, mountain lions, and dogs; prone to parvo, mange, distemper and rabies; parasites include lice, mites, ticks, and fleas

**Values:** contribute to the overall health and number of prey species by keeping the population controlled